Name: Date: Period:

**Cancer Facts**

**Cancer Statistics:**

* 1 in 3 Americans will develop cancer; of those 1 in 4 will die from cancer.
* Currently 11.5 million Americans have cancer.
* Men have a 50% chance of developing cancer, whereas, women have only a 33% chance.
* Smokers are 23-24 times more likely to develop cancers than nonsmokers.
* Women with breast cancer in their genetics are two times more likely to develop cancer.
* Obesity severely increases the chances of cancer.
* Cancer is the 2nd leading cause of death in the U.S. behind heart disease.

**General Cancer Information:**

**Carcinogen** – anything that causes cancer

**Oncogenes** – genes that tell specific chemicals to start cell division

* **Mutation** – change in the structure of cell’s DNA
  + If mutation occurs, its then passed on
* **P53 gene** – stops mitosis and further mutations, thus cancelling cancer

**Tumor** – uncontrolled growth of cells that forms a lump

* **Benign** – mass of cells that isn’t cancerous
* **Malignant** – cancerous mass

**Treatments (because there are no CURES, YET!!!):**

* Surgery – remove tumor
* Radiation: 4 types
  + Alpha, beta, gamma, X-ray – damages chromosomes in cancer cells
* Chemotherapy – targets rapidly growing cells to disrupt mitosis

**Preventions:**

* Exposure to toxins (tobacco, food, pesticides, alcohol, drugs, UV light etc.)